

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

5

1. (Currently amended) A method of storing a respiring biological material wherein the respiring biological material is stored in a packaging atmosphere within a sealed container which

10 (a) has an interior surface at least part of which is composed of a hydrophilic polymer composition (HPC), wherein the MVTR of the HPC is 50 to 250, and

(b) comprises an auxiliary component capable of providing an atmosphere that has a combined oxygen and carbon dioxide content of less than 18 percent and comprising a second polymeric composition (i) which is not an HPC, and (ii) through which pass oxygen and carbon dioxide entering or leaving the packaging atmosphere.

15

2. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 which has an auxiliary component comprising an atmosphere control member (ACM) comprising a microporous film having a coating of the second polymeric composition thereon and at least one of the following characteristics

20 (a) the auxiliary component has an R ratio of at least 1.5;
(b) the auxiliary component has a P₁₀ ratio of at least 1.3;
(c) ~~the auxiliary component comprises an atmosphere control member (ACM) comprising a microporous film having a coating of the second polymeric composition thereon;~~

25 ~~(d) the auxiliary component is part of a laminate comprising a first layer and composed of the HPC and a second layer composed of the second polymeric composition, the second layer having one or more of the following characteristics~~

(i) it is less than 10 microns thick,
(ii) it is composed of a polyolefin,
30 (iii) it is part of a three-layer laminate and is sandwiched between the first layer and a third layer, and

(iv) it has an MVTR of 50 to 165250.

3. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the packaging atmosphere consists of a combined oxygen and carbon dioxide content of less than 18 percent, wherein at least one auxiliary component comprises an atmosphere control member (ACM) comprising a microporous film and wherein the HPC is at least part polyester in the form of a film having a window therein, and the auxiliary component covers the window, wherein the MVTR is 50 to 165.
- 10 4. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 24 wherein the container comprises at least one first discrete section composed of the HPC and at least one second discrete section composed of the second polymeric composition.
- 15 5. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 24 wherein the HPC provides at least 50% of the interior surface of sealed container.
6. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 34 wherein the packaging atmosphere has an oxygen content of 2-5% and a carbon dioxide content of 5-10%.
- 20 7. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the HPC composition comprises a polyamide, wherein the auxiliary component comprises an atmosphere control member (ACM) comprising a microporous film and wherein the average pore size is less than 0.24 microns.
- 25 8. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 24 wherein a film consisting of the HPC, when immersed in water at 23°C, has an equilibrium water content of at least 6.0% by weight based on the dry weight of the composition.
- 30 9. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 24 wherein a film consisting of the HPC, when exposed at 23°C to an atmosphere having a relative humidity of 50%,

has an equilibrium water content of at least 2.4%, by weight, based on the dry weight of the composition.

10. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 24 wherein the respiring
5 biological material is bananas.

11. (Withdrawn) A sealable container which, when sealed around a respiring biological material, is suited for use in the method of claim 1 and which

10 (a) has an interior surface at least part of which is composed of a hydrophilic polymer composition (HPC), and

15 (b) comprises an auxiliary component comprising a second polymeric composition (i) which is not an HPC, and (ii) through which pass oxygen and carbon dioxide entering or leaving the packaging atmosphere.

12. (Withdrawn) A sealed container which is suitable for use in the method of claim 1 and which

(a) has an interior surface at least part of which is composed of a hydrophilic polymer composition (HPC), and

20 (b) comprises an auxiliary component comprising a second polymeric composition (i) which is not an HPC, and (ii) through which pass oxygen and carbon dioxide entering or leaving the packaging atmosphere.

13 – 14. Canceled.

25 15. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 24 wherein the HPC comprises polylactic acid.

16 – 18. Canceled.

30 19. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein (1) the HPC is in the form of a film having a window therein, and (2) the auxiliary component (i) covers the

window, and (ii) is an atmosphere control member having a R ratio of at least 1.5 and comprising a microporous film capable of providing an atmosphere that has a combined oxygen and carbon dioxide content of less than 18 percent having a coating of the non-HPC polymeric material thereon.

5

20. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein (1) the HPC is in the form of a polyester film having a window therein, and (2) the auxiliary component (i) covers the window, and (ii) is an atmosphere control member having a R ratio of at least 1.5 and comprising a microporous film capable of providing an atmosphere that has a combined oxygen and carbon dioxide content of less than 18 percent having a coating of the non-HPC polymeric material thereon, the non-HPC polymeric material comprising a side chain crystalline polymer.

10

21. (Withdrawn) A sealable container according to claim 11 wherein (1) the HPC is in the form of a film having a window therein, and (2) the auxiliary component (i) covers the window, and (ii) is an atmosphere control member having a R ratio of at least 1.5 and comprising a microporous film having a coating of the non-HPC polymeric material thereon.

15

22. (Withdrawn) A sealable container according to claim 11 wherein (1) the HPC is in the form of a polyester film having a window therein, and (2) the auxiliary component (i) covers the window, and (ii) is an atmosphere control member having a R ratio of at least 1.5 and comprising a microporous film having a coating of the non-HPC polymeric material thereon, the non-HPC polymeric material comprising a side chain crystalline polymer.

25

23. (Withdrawn) A sealable container according to claim 11 wherein (1) the HPC is in the form of a polyester film having a window therein, and (2) the auxiliary component (i) covers the window, and (ii) is an atmosphere control member having a R ratio of at least 1.5 and comprising a microporous film having a coating of the non-HPC polymeric material thereon.

30

24. (Currently amended) A method of storing a respiring biological material wherein the respiring biological material is stored in a packaging atmosphere within a sealed container capable of providing an atmosphere that has a combined oxygen and carbon dioxide content of less than 18 percent which consists essentially of (1) a polyester film having a window therein and (2) an auxiliary component which covers the window: the polyester film, when immersed in water at 23°C, having an equilibrium water content of at least 4.0%, based on the dry weight of the film; and the auxiliary component being an atmosphere control member (i) through which pass oxygen and carbon dioxide entering or leaving the packaging atmosphere, (ii) which has an R ratio of at least 1.5; and (iii) which comprises a microporous film having a coating of a non-HPC polymeric material thereon.
- 10
25. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 24 wherein the non-HPC polymeric material comprises a side chain crystalline polymer.
- 15